[30th January 1936

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—"With reference to clause (*d*) I would like to know what the real object is of the condition imposed?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"Nothing, except that in a very technical, important and even dangerous matter only experienced men who have already done some work in the line can be expected to execute the work satisfactorily."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"Arising out of clause (*e*) may I ask whether the tender of Messrs. Callendars was the lowest and for that reason they got the contract?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I am not aware of it. But I shall enquire. But I may tell the hon. Member that though the lowest tender is generally accepted, efficiency plays a more important part."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—"With reference to clauses (*d*) and (*e*) I find great disparity between the values of the contract between Messrs. Callendars and the Indian Company. May I know how Government accounts for the great disparity?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"66 K.W. are of a higher capacity and naturally they cost more. Those that cost more must certainly be higher than those that cost less."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"How many firms are there who have experience in laying 66 K.V. lines—Only one or more than one?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"In what country?"

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"In Madras Presidency?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I am not aware of many companies, Sir."

Electric pumps and their capacity.

* 627 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—"With reference to the answer to question No. 510 answered on the 8th November 1935, will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to call for and lay on the table a list showing the amount of energy used for agricultural pumping, the number of pumps installed and the steps taken by the private licensees in the province in the matter of electrical pumping for agriculture?

A.—The Chief Engineer for Electricity has been asked to obtain the information required. This will take some time as reports have to be called for from all licensees.

Representations for the reservation of the Palar basin for the development of electricity by the Government.

* 628 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received any representation from the Members of the Legislative Council representing North Arcot to reserve

30th January 1936]

the Palar basin to be developed by the Government in regard to electrical pumping for agriculture;

(*b*) whether a report has been called for from the Chief Engineer for Electricity on the same; and

(*c*) whether applications from private licensees in the above area have been refused?

A.—(*a*) A representation from Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi, M.L.C., has been received by Government stating that Government themselves should supply electric energy to towns and villages in the *North Arcot district.*

(*b*) The Chief Engineer has been consulted.

(*c*) An application for a licence for a certain area including the Walajapet taluk, which lies in the Palar Basin, is under the consideration of Government.

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—"May I know from the Hon. the Law Member whether besides the representation received from Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi any representation was received from any other Members of this House and if so, what action has been taken thereon?" 11-a.

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I am not aware of any other hon. Member mentioning it to me, and there is nothing on record showing that any other Member of this House has made a representation."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask whether the Hon. the Law Member is aware that the District Board of North Arcot and various municipalities of the district have passed resolutions urging upon the Government the desirability of reserving the right of private distribution to themselves, without giving the right to private licensees?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—My attention has not been drawn to any resolutions that might have been passed by the district board and municipalities. I thought the question referred to the representations made by the Members of this House. That is how I understand the question."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), may I ask whether the Hon. the Law Member will be pleased to lay on the table the opinion of the Chief Engineer?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I do not think any useful purpose will be served by that. The report is meant for the information of the Government."

Reservation to the Government of the right in the Palar basin to develop and distribute electricity to rural areas.

* 629 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government propose to reserve the right to distribute rural load to themselves in the Palar basin